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The situation in the Middle East

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Sixty-third year

Identical letters dated 6 November 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of violations committed by Israel from 15 to 31 October 2008 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 15, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 6 November 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Subject: Israeli violations, acts of aggression and other activities from 15 to 31 October 2008, inclusive

Air violations

On 19 October 2008 between 1945 and 2145 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah and circling the South before departing over Naqurah.

On 20 October 2008 at 1850 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b and circling over areas of the Bekaa and the South, before departing on 21 October 2008 at 0655 hours over Naqurah.

On 22 October 2008 between 1645 and 1800 hours, enemy Israeli military aircraft flew over the areas of Tibnin and Bint Jubayl.

On 23 October 2008 between 1310 and 1525 hours, two enemy Israeli military aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Dayr Mimas and circling over all areas of Lebanon before departing over the sea off Naqurah.

On 26 October 2008 between 1805 and 2300 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah. It circled over areas of the South and then departed over Rumaysh.

On 30 October 2008 between 0700 and 1700 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Tyre. It circled over areas of the South and between the South and Beirut before departing over Rumaysh.

- Between 2132 and 2310 hours, two enemy Israeli military aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Maysan and flying north as far as Shikka. They circled over all areas of Lebanon and then departed over Alma al-Sha'b.

On 31 October 2008 between 0955 and 1030 hours, six enemy Israeli military aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. They circled over all areas of Lebanon before departing over the sea off Naqurah.

- Between 1005 and 1045 hours, two enemy Israeli military aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Batrun. They circled over all areas of Lebanon before departing over the sea off Naqurah.

- Between 1010 and 1130 hours, four enemy Israeli military aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Batrun and flying east. They circled over all areas of Lebanon before departing over Alma al-Sha'b.

- Between 2120 and 2200 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Tyre. It circled over the sea off Beirut before leaving over the sea off Beirut.

Sea violations

On 19 October 2008 at 1935 hours, a Lebanese fishing vessel approached the line of buoys and an enemy Israeli gunboat fired tracer rounds over the vessel, warning it to keep its distance. At 1900 hours, it returned to the same place and the enemy gunboat again fired tracer rounds and a flare shell for 10 seconds, and shone a searchlight for 15 seconds.

On 22 October 2008 at 0530 hours, an enemy Israeli boat which was about 500 metres south of the line of buoys and 5,000 metres from the coast fired tracer rounds into the air in the direction of Lebanese territorial waters.

On 26 October 2008 between 1345 and 1400 hours, an enemy Israeli gunboat in Palestinian territorial waters off Ra's al-Naqurah which was carrying out maintenance on the demarcation buoys violated Lebanese territorial waters to a distance of 5 metres.

- At 1955 hours an enemy Israeli gunboat in occupied Palestinian territorial waters off Ra's al-Naqurah shone a searchlight for one minute in the direction of Lebanese territorial waters.

On 27 October 2008 between 0915 and 1030 hours, an enemy Israeli gunboat carrying out maintenance on the line of buoys in the open sea off Ra's al-Naqurah inside occupied Palestinian territorial waters violated Lebanese territorial waters to a distance of about 2 metres.

Attacks on ground

On 19 October 2008 at 0700 hours during a patrol carried out by the Lebanese Army (11th Engineering Brigade) on the Blue Line at point BP 17 (Yarun) an enemy Israeli sentry came out of his pillbox and shouted insults. The patrol carried on its way towards Wadi Sa'sa' without responding.

Israeli activities

On 15 October 2008 in certain areas of Mount Lebanon and at various times, a number of people received calls of unknown origin from an answering machine announcing that 10 million dollars would be paid to anyone giving information about the missing Israeli soldiers.

On 16 October 2008 at 1220 hours inside occupied Palestinian territory at the crossing point by the town of Kafr Killa, an enemy Israeli patrol arrived comprising two Hummer vehicles, a Poclain jackhammer and two civilian cars carrying surveying equipment. The jackhammer was used to open up the crossing and to dig a ditch 20 metres long and 1 metre wide parallel to the road from the Israeli side in which the members of the patrol placed concrete blocks.

On 21 October 2008 between 1320 and 1350 hours, an enemy Israeli boat at a distance of 100 metres south of the line of buoys and 50 metres from the shore dumped an explosive charge into the water as a warning to Lebanese swimmers 1,500 metres north of the line of buoys.

On 22 October 2008 at 0050 hours, an enemy Israeli boat at a distance of 100 metres south of the line of buoys and 500 metres from the shore dumped an explosive charge and at 0610 hours it dumped two explosive charges into the water to protect the area from what the enemy claimed was a floating canister.

On 25 October 2008 between 2220 and 2355 hours inside occupied Palestinian territory by the town of Kafr Killa at the Fatima gate, two Hummer jeeps and two Toyota jeeps were observed with nine people on board carrying out an inspection of the gardens using the jeeps' searchlights and handheld torches. During the inspection, they fired 18 flare shells over the area.